

## Carelessness, complacency lead to long detours home

**By Jim Brouillette, 1 AD Safety Manager**

BAGHDAD, Iraq - It's been a long year but we are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

History has taught us that the final 30 days of a deployment are the most dangerous for Soldiers.

Soldiers' thoughts start to wander and attention to the task at hand diminishes when you consider:

- missions are continuing;
- there are many tasks that must be completed before leaving for home;
- an arduous road trip to the port;
- and, the anxiety of homecoming.

It is at this point in time that acquired bad habits take the place of good judgment and complacency sets in.

And, with complacency comes accidents. One misstep, occurring in a split second, may change your life forever.

Speeding claims the lives of more Soldiers than any other type of accident. You may be in a hurry to get home, but speeding to your next destination may make the journey a long one, if you get there at all.

"Don't wear your seatbelt, you're just going down the road." That one decision alone has been responsible for the death of many a Soldier.

If you approach a clearing barrel with the thought that it's the third such time today, and you fail to visually inspect the chamber because it's always been empty before, you may be in for an ugly surprise.

Is your life really worth only the few seconds it takes to visually inspect the chamber?

If you think that this will never happen to you, I can almost assure you that I will come to know your name. It usually shows up on my desk under the heading of "Victim."

Some safety "experts" will tell you that



**Speed and complacency kills. In the day ahead, Soldiers need to remember basic safety practices like wearing seatbelts and obeying speed limits.**

accidents at the end of a deployment are inevitable. I, for one, don't subscribe to that school of thought.

The Army values and training that have taken us this far can continue to carry us through the remainder of this deployment.

Continued teamwork and the Army family will carry us through to a happy homecoming. It is incumbent on every Soldier to watch every other Soldier's back.

Leaders at all levels must ensure that tasks are performed to standard and that on-the-spot corrections are made immediately when the standards are not met.

The standards include but are not limited to wearing the right equipment for the job or mission, checking your work area for hazards, and completing the task by the book.

It is only by performing to standard, in a disciplined manner that will ensure that the light that every Soldier is seeing at the end of the tunnel isn't an oncoming train.

**Be Safe, arrive alive!**

## **NEWS...**

### **Iraqi Council Signs Interim Constitution**

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Iraq's Governing Council signed a landmark interim constitution Monday, a key step in U.S. plans to hand power to the Iraqis by July 1. But within hours, Iraq's top Shiite cleric issued a fatwa religious ruling criticizing the document, signaling that a dispute that delayed the signing was not over. Before an audience of prominent Iraqi and American civilian and military officials - including top U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer - 21 of the 25 council members signed the document on an antique desk once owned by King Faisal I, Iraq's first monarch. Representatives of the absent four signed on their behalf.

### **Hamas Vows Vengeance for 14 Gaza Deaths**

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) - Hamas threatened revenge Monday, after 14 Palestinians were killed in the deadliest Israeli raid in Gaza in 17 months - part of an upsurge in bloodshed linked to a proposed Israeli withdrawal from the coastal strip. Among the dead were 11 militants and three boys between the ages of 8 and 15, and 81 people were wounded. The fighting near the Bureij refugee camp Sunday pitted hundreds of Palestinians with assault rifles, anti-tank missiles and grenade launchers against Israeli snipers and troops firing from helicopters and tanks.

### **U.S. Marines Say They Killed Haiti Gunman**

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - U.S. Marines shot and killed a gunman during an outbreak of gunfire at a weekend demonstration by Haitians celebrating the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a spokesman said Monday. The gunfire occurred during an anti-Aristide march Sunday, prompting the Marines to return fire in the first armed action of their week-old mission to stabilize Haiti.

### **Stewart Makes First Remarks Since Trial**

NEW YORK (AP) - Martha Stewart made her first public remarks Monday since being convicted of lying about a stock sale, thanking viewers of her television shows and readers of her magazines and Web sites. She made the remarks as she was getting into the front passenger seat of a sport utility vehicle outside a lower Manhattan courthouse, where she met with a probation officer for about an hour.

### ***Thought for the day...***

#### **Peace**

Peace does not dwell in outward things, but within the soul; we may preserve it in the midst of the bitterest pain, if our will remains firm and submissive. Peace in this life springs from acquiescence not in an exemption from suffering.

-- Francis Fenelon

"The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

-- Numbers 6:26

## **Entertainment, Sports & Food...**

### **David Bowie Says He's Experimenting Again**

TOKYO (AP) -- David Bowie, pushing 60, says he's headed for another experimental phase. Speaking in Tokyo to start this week's Japan leg of his world tour, Bowie said he's stripping down his act to try out some new approaches.

"I'm heading for another period of experimentation," he said. "(I'm at) a time when I'm collecting myself before I break all my own rules."

The iconic artist has gone through various personas during his more than three-decade career - Ziggy Stardust, the Thin White Duke, Philadelphia soul man, avant-garde rocker.

Now, he said, he wants to focus on his songwriting and singing.

"It's probably the simplest tour that I've ever done," he said, dressed in gray cargo pants and a hooded sweat shirt. "This is very stripped down. It's really not working with theatrics at all."

The tour is Bowie's first world tour since 1995. He released his latest album, *Reality*, last September.

The 57-year-old said it's harder to get his music heard these days, especially on radio stations, because of his age. But he added that he enjoys seeing life get simpler as he ages.

"I was quite scared of getting old in my 40s," he said. "But as I approach 60 ... you learn to embrace getting older."

### **Mean Joe Greene to Be Steelers' New Scout**

PITTSBURGH (AP) -- Mean Joe Greene is coming back to Pittsburgh, nearly a quarter century after anchoring the Steel Curtain defensive line on four Super Bowl winners.

The Hall of Fame defensive tackle will serve as a scout for the Steelers. Greene was the defensive line coach for the Arizona Cardinals for the past eight years and was an assistant for the Miami Dolphins before that.

Greene was Chuck Noll's first draft choice from North Texas State, fourth overall, when he took over as coach in 1969. He was defensive rookie of the year and made the Pro Bowl for the first of 10 times.

He was NFL Defensive Player of the year in 1974.

### **Marijuana Found in Load of Frozen Chickens**

RATON, N.M. (AP) -- Frozen chickens and marijuana - a combination that put the driver of a tractor-trailer rig in jail.

The man, whose name has not been released, was arrested Saturday after an officer from the state's Motor Transportation Division found 1,240 pounds of marijuana hidden in a load of frozen chickens.

The truck was headed for the Midwest when it was pulled over on Interstate 25 near Raton as part of a routine traffic stop. The officer became suspicious and a search of the truck turned up the marijuana.

## ***Today in History...***

### **March 9, 1917: PANCHO VILLA RAIDS U.S.**

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) In the early morning of March 9, 1917, several hundred Mexican guerrillas under the command of Francisco "Pancho" Villa cross the U.S.-Mexican border and attack the small border town of Columbus, New Mexico. Seventeen Americans were killed in the raid, and the center of town was burned. It was unclear whether Villa personally participated in the attack, but President Woodrow Wilson ordered the U.S. Army into Mexico to capture the rebel leader dead or alive.

Before he invaded the United States, Pancho Villa was already known to Americans for his exploits during the Mexican Revolution. He led the famous *Division del Norte*, with its brilliant cavalry, *Los Dorados*, and won control of northern Mexico after a series of audacious attacks. In 1914, following the resignation of Mexican leader Victoriano Huerta, Pancho Villa and his former revolutionary ally Venustiano Carranza battled each other in a struggle for succession. By the end of 1915, Villa had been driven north into the mountains, and the U.S. government recognized General Carranza as the president of Mexico.

In January 1916, to protest President Woodrow Wilson's support for Carranza, Villa executed 16 U.S. citizens at Santa Isabel in northern Mexico. Then, in early March, he ordered the raid on Columbus. Cavalry from the nearby Camp Furlong U.S. Army outpost pursued the Mexicans, killing several dozen rebels on U.S. soil and in Mexico before turning back. On March 15, under orders from President Wilson, U.S. Brigadier General John J. Pershing launched a punitive expedition into Mexico to capture Villa and disperse his rebels. The expedition eventually involved some 10,000 U.S. troops and personnel. It was the first U.S. military operation to employ mechanized vehicles, including automobiles and airplanes.

For 11 months, Pershing failed to capture the elusive revolutionary, who was aided by his intimate knowledge of the terrain of northern Mexico and his popular support from the people there. Meanwhile, resentment over the U.S. intrusion into Mexican territory led to a diplomatic crisis with the government in Mexico City.

On June 21, the crisis escalated into violence when Mexican government troops attacked a detachment of the 10th Cavalry at Carrizal, Mexico, leaving 12 Americans dead, 10 wounded, and 24 captured. The Mexicans suffered more than 30 dead. If not for the critical situation in Europe, war might have been declared. In January 1917, having failed in their mission to capture Villa, and under continued pressure from the Mexican government, the Americans were ordered home.

Villa continued his guerrilla activities in northern Mexico until Adolfo de la Huerta took power over the government and drafted a reformist constitution. Villa entered into an amicable agreement with Huerta and agreed to retire from politics. In 1920, the government pardoned Villa, but three years later he was assassinated at his ranch in Parral.

### **New reenlistment incentives offered**

The Army is offering incentive bonuses for Soldiers who choose to reenlist into selected units.

Initial and Mid-Career Soldiers, regardless of their projected date of leaving the Army, whether or not he is in a balanced or shortage MOS, who are otherwise qualified for reenlistment may request an assignment to these units regardless of the 12-month reenlistment window.

If his or her request is approved, the Soldier will be authorized reenlistment bonuses under "Option E5, CONUS Station-of-Choice Reenlistment Option."

The Army is looking for Soldiers to re-up for:

- The 3rd Infantry Division, based at Forts Stewart and Benning, Ga., with a report date of June 30, 2004;
- The 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Polk, La., With a reporting date of Sept. 30, 2004.



# The Old Ironsides Report

March 9, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, MARCH 09, 2004				As of: Monday, March 08, 2004 11:04:06 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00		HEADLINE NEWS	MONSTER GARAGE (TV--PG: - WHEELIE CAR	TODAY		00:00
00:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO			HEADLINE NEWS	00:30
01:00	AROUND THE HORN		OF MICE AND MEN		LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				01:30
02:00	SPORTSCENTER			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	NHRA AUTO RACING - CHECKER SHUCK'S KRAGEN NATIONALS: FINALS	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - COLONIAL ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP: GEORGE MASON VS VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH	ROCKET POWER (TV--Y): - DOUBLE-O TWISTERVISION/ WOMP RACE 2000	DRAGON TALES (TV--Y): - SO LONG SOLO/ HANDS TOGETHER	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00			THE SIMPSONS (TV--PG: - BART'S DOG GETS AN F	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	04:00
04:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TV--G): - CLOSE TO HOME			04:30
05:00		MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - MISSOURI VALLEY CHAMPIONSHIP: SW MISSOURI ST VS NORTHERN IOWA	J.A.G. (TV--PG: - ICE QUEENS (PT. 1)	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
06:00	ESPNEWS		THE PRACTICE (TV--14: - MAN AND SUPERMAN	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWSHOUR	06:00
06:30	TOTALLY NASCAR			JUDGE JUDY		06:30
07:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	CELEBRITY PROFILES (TV--PG: - KATEY SAGAL	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:25				GUIDING LIGHT		07:25
07:30		ESPNEWS			NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - WCC CHAMPIONSHIP: ST. MARY'S VS GONZAGA	HEADLINE NEWS	REMAINS OF THE DAY		LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		08:13
08:30		HEADLINE NEWS				08:30
09:00		SESAME STREET		ARTHUR (TV--Y): - THE CONTEST/ PROVE IT	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30				DISNEY'S DOUG (TV--Y): - DOUG GETS RIGHT BACK ON		09:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	DRAGON TALES (TV--Y): - SO LONG SOLO/ HANDS TOGETHER		THAT'S SO RAVEN (TV--G): - TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	THE AMANDA SHOW		10:30
11:00	WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ATLANTIC 10 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: ST. JOSEPH'S VS TEMPLE	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	ROCKET POWER (TV--Y): - DOUBLE-O TWISTERVISION/ WOMP RACE 2000	JEOPARDY!	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	HEADLINE NEWS	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				11:46
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			THE SIMPSONS (TV--PG: - BART'S DOG GETS AN F	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TV--G): - CLOSE TO HOME	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT				12:35
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00	WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: PURDUE VS PENN STATE		J.A.G. (TV--PG: - ICE QUEENS (PT. 1)	TRUE LIFE: - I'M LIVING IN IRAQ	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL				13:17
13:53				IRAQI FREEDOM: - PROD YEAR 2004		13:53
14:00		HEADLINE NEWS	THE PRACTICE (TV--14: - MAN AND SUPERMAN	NUTTY PROFESSOR II: THE KLUMPS	20/20	14:00
14:30		JUDGE JUDY				14:30
15:00	SPORTSCENTER	TODAY	CELEBRITY PROFILES (TV--PG: - KATEY SAGAL		GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
16:00	AFL - SAN JOSE SABRECATS @ NY DRAGONS		REMAINS OF THE DAY	HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		16:30
17:00		ARTHUR (TV--Y): - THE CONTEST/ PROVE IT			HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30		DISNEY'S DOUG (TV--Y): - DOUG GETS RIGHT BACK ON		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00		THAT'S SO RAVEN (TV--G): - TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL			THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30		THE AMANDA SHOW	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	ROCKET POWER (TV--Y): - DOUBLE-O TWISTERVISION/ WOMP RACE 2000	THE IRON GIANT		19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS			19:30
20:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TV--PG: - BART'S DOG GETS AN F		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30	NBA INSIDE STUFF	HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW (TV--G): - CLOSE TO HOME	LONE STAR		20:30
21:00	SPORTSCENTER	TRUE LIFE: - I'M LIVING IN IRAQ	J.A.G. (TV--PG: - ICE QUEENS (PT. 1)		20/20	21:00
21:53		IRAQI FREEDOM: - PROD YEAR 2004				21:53
22:00	NASCAR NEXTEL CUP SERIES - UAW- DAIMLERCHRYSLER 400	NUTTY PROFESSOR II: THE KLUMPS	THE PRACTICE (TV--14: - MAN AND SUPERMAN		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00			CELEBRITY PROFILES (TV--PG: - KATEY SAGAL	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30				HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:30